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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/668,494	09/22/2000	Robert E. Jones		1981

41131 7590 08/24/2005

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2010 WEST SEVENTH STREET
COFFEYVILLE, KS 67337

EXAMINER

DIXON, THOMAS A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3639

DATE MAILED: 08/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/668,494

Applicant(s)

JONES, ROBERT E.

Examiner

Thomas A. Dixon

Art Unit

3639

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 June 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 25-31, 33-38, 42-51 and 53-63 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 25-27, 29, 31, 33, 25-38, 42-43, 45-47, 49, 51, 53, 55-62 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 28, 30, 34, 44, 48, 50, 54 and 63 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendments/Arguments

1. Claims 32, 52 indicated allowable have been cancelled and the features rewritten into the independent claims. Further, claims 39-41 have been cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 28, 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically the word "goods" in the phrase "goods or services" lacks antecedent basis after the most recent amendment.
3. Claims 30, 34, 44, 50, 54, 63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically the word "whether" and "if" make the claim indefinite, further the word "ignores" indicates that one option is to do nothing, and therefore, does not further limit the claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 25, 33, 45, 53 are allowable.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per Claim 25.

The prior art of record Lee (2002/0099649) in view of Quinn (3,688,276) do not disclose or fairly teach:

a flight firming process, the improvement comprising:
coordinating access to the database to acquire data for operations therewith and scheduling said operations; and

Art Unit: 3639

returning the data to the database after operations are performed thereto to a predetermined location within the database, to thereby update the database.

As per Claim 33.

The prior art of record Lee (2002/0099649) in view of Quinn (3,688,276) do not disclose or fairly teach:

a flight firming system, the improvement comprising:

means for coordinating access to the database to acquire each reservation for operations thereon and for scheduling operations on each reservation; and

means for returning each reservation to the database after the performance of operations thereon to a predetermined location within the database to thereby update the database.

As per Claim 45.

The prior art of record Lee (2002/0099649) in view of Quinn (3,688,276) do not disclose or fairly teach:

a flight firming process, the improvement comprising:

coordinating access to the database to acquire data for operations therewith and scheduling said operations;

returning the data to the database after at least some of said operations are performed thereto to a predetermined location within the database, to thereby update the database; and

checking said reservations for duplicate reservation numbers.

As per Claim 53.

The prior art of record Lee (2002/0099649) in view of Quinn (3,688,276) do not disclose or fairly teach:

a system for firming flights, the improvement comprising:

means for coordinating access to the database to acquire each reservation for operations thereon and for scheduling operations on each reservation;

means for returning each reservation to the database after the performance of operations thereon to a predetermined location within the database to thereby update the database, and

means for checking a reservation for duplicate ticket numbers.

The claims that depend from these allowable claims are allowable for the same reasons.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

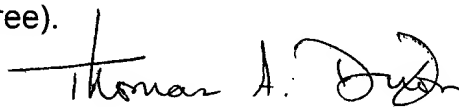
accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas A. Dixon whose telephone number is (571) 272-6803. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 6:30 - 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hayes can be reached on (571) 272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Thomas A. Dixon
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3639

August 05